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SKEGNESS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

for the year, 1940.

To The Chairman and Members of the Skegness Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my sixth Annual Report.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	4,411,786
Population (Census 1931)	9,121
Population (Local Census 1932)	8,500
Number of inhabited houses 1940	3,000 X
Rateable Value, 31st December, 1940	£106,216
Product of a penny rate	£463
Registrar Generals estimated population mid. year, 1939.	10,310 X

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS DURING THE YEAR.

	Total	Males	Females	
Births	137	78	59	Birth Rate 15.7
Deaths	115	64	51	Death Rate 12.5

Number of women dying in from Sepsis Nil
consequence of childbirth; from other causes 1

Death-rate of infants under one year of age, per 1,000 live births: 9. 65.7

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	9
" " Measles (all ages)	1
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

Measles was prevalent in the early part of the year when about 224 cases were reported.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0								
1								
5		1						
15	2	1		1	1			1
25	1	1			1	1		
35	1	1			1	2		
45	3	1		1	1			
55								
65 and upwards		1					1	
Totals	7	6		2	4	3	1	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the year. The figures are:

	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total deaths
Scarlet Fever	8	7	
Diphtheria	7	5	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum			
Erysipelas			
Pneumonia	1		
Cerebro Spinal Fever	7	5	3
Acute Poliomyelitis			
Puerperal Pyrexia	1		
Measles	224	4	1
Totals	<u>248</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>4</u>

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM. There were no cases notified during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS of the AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health, and Superintendent of Isolation Hospital; Dr. D. Fraser Menzies, M.B., Ch B. (St. And.)

Sanitary Inspector, Superintendent of house and trade refuse removal, S. James, (1) Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute (2) Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute. Meat and Food.

Matron of Isolation Hospital Miss E.E. Harrison, State Reg. Nurse.

Miss B.M. Herratt, Matron of the Isolation Hospital retired on superannuation after giving valuable assistance to the Council for a good number of years.

NURSING.

I am indebted to Miss M. Walker, the secretary to the District Nurse Association, for the following reports of the District Nurses' Work:-

General Nursing Visits	3,337
Ante Natal Visits	311
Maternity and Midwifery cases	90

I consider the above figures speak highly of the good work done by our two District Nurses.

SKEGNESS INFANT WELFARE.

The work of the first full year at the new Welfare Centre has been marred by the war. The average weekly attendance has been 24 mothers and 60 children compared with 67 mothers and 84 children in 1939. The National Milk Scheme which does not require mothers to attend a Welfare Centre has undoubtedly adversely affected the numbers.

Two Health Visitors and Dr Wilson attend each Friday.

The Ante-Natal clinic is held on the first and third Fridays of each month, and a qualified dentists attends fortnightly.

I am indebted to Mrs R. H. Jenkins for the above excellent report, and for which I tender my grateful thanks. I also wish to thank the nurses and Committee of the Association for their excellent work throughout the year.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL

The hospital for infectious diseases is situated in an isolated position on the Wainfleet Road, and is about 2 miles from the town.

There are 16 beds available for residents and visitors.

The buildings consist of two ward blocks, administrative block, also outhouses, and housing for steam disinfectors.

I must express my thanks to the matron (Miss E.E. Harrison) for the skill and careful attention given to all patients whilst in hospital.

The Hospital proved adequate during the year to deal with all cases of infectious disease which arose.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

There is no local centre for the treatment of venereal diseases; one ought to be provided.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The County Council provide for the treatment of tuberculosis. The nearest clinic is at Spilsby and the nearest Sanatorium at Louth. A clinic for this purpose is, I understand, to be established at Skegness.

GENERAL HEALTH.

The general health of the town has been good during the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Soil and surface water sewers have been laid and extended to meet the needs of the district as occasion demanded. The erection of the new sewage disposal works was completed in 1939.

SCAVENGING.

The removal and disposal of house and trade refuse and the cleansing of earth closets, privies, and cesspools in the area is carried out by the Council.

This work was carried out during the year under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector in a most efficient manner.

SANITARY INSPECTION of the AREA.

A classified statement of the number of premises visited, the defects or nuisances discovered, and the action or result of action taken in regard to these will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

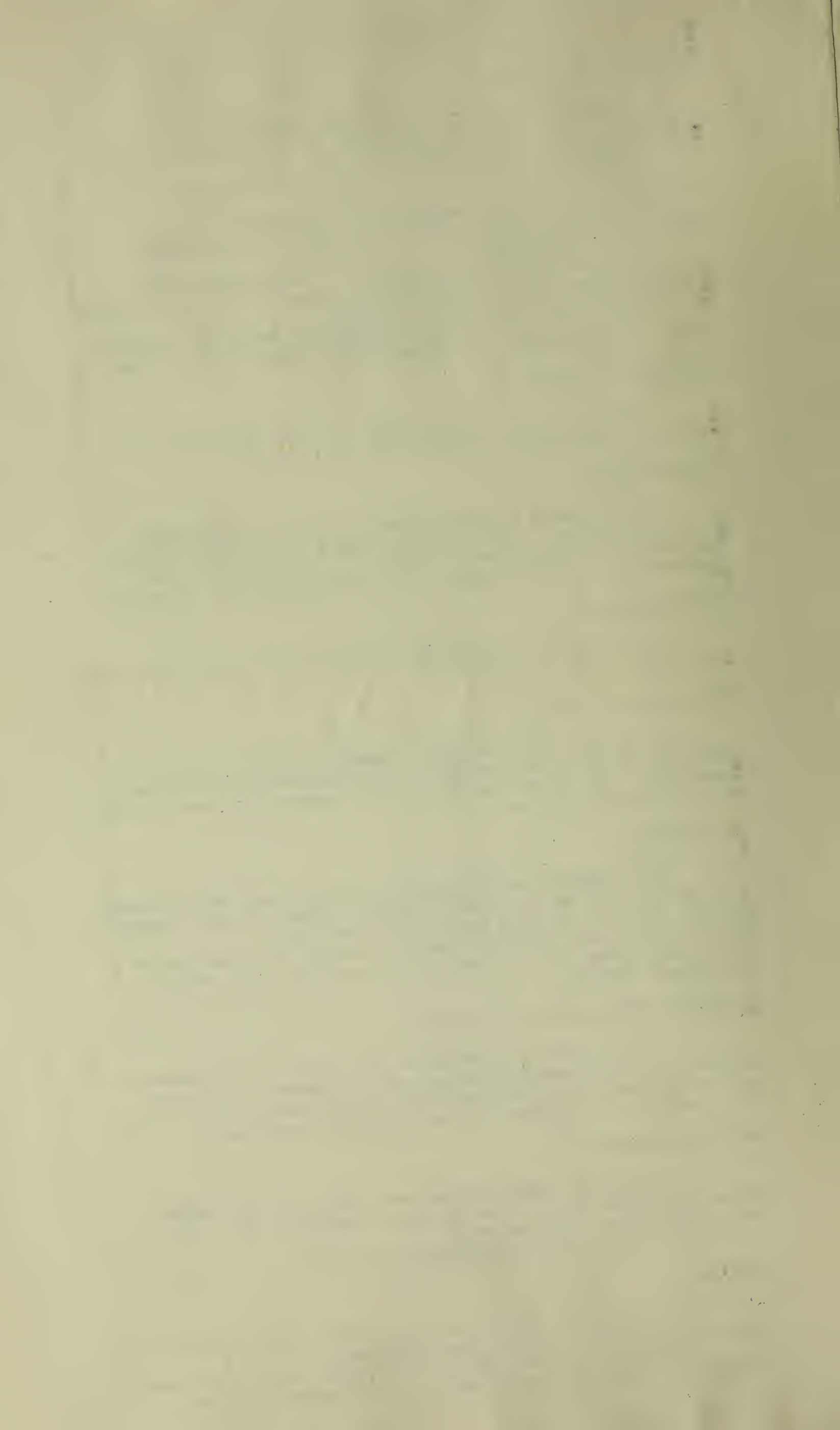
Periodical observations are taken of the works chimneys in the area. Two informal notices were served and these were complied with.

No legal proceedings were necessary.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary conditions and water supply of the public elementary schools are excellent.

The County School Medical Officer regularly inspects the schools and the children. Any treatment required



can be obtained through the medical practitioners in the town and through the various schemes provided by the Education Committee. As in the cases of Infant Welfare Centres close co-operation between the Medical Officers and the Medical Practitioners is essential for the efficient service.

Milk is available to all school children.

HOUSING.

One licence was issued for the temporary use of houses by persons in excess of the permitted number under section 61 Housing Act, 1936. The general housing conditions are good, there being no houses overcrowded at the end of the year.

REPORT ON HOUSING ACTS INSPECTIONS.

The number of inspections made and the action taken will be found in the tabulated report.

SHOPS ACT.

Inspections are made from time to time and the action taken will be found in the tabulated report.

MEAT AND FOOD.

The three private slaughter-houses situate in Richmond Drive are visited by your Council's Sanitary Inspector during hours of slaughter.

These slaughter-houses were taken over in January by the Ministry of Food.

The inspection of meat now takes up a good deal of time necessitating many hours overtime being worked.

The number of visits paid in connection with food inspection will be found in the Sanitary Inspectors report.

Shops, stalls, vehicles and places where food is stored or prepared for sale have been regularly inspected.

MILK SUPPLY.

All farms and dairies in the district have been frequently visited. All the cowsheds and dairies are of good construction and every effort is made to attain a high standard of cleanliness.

Samples of milk were frequently taken from all sources and submitted for examination. In any case of milk being found not to be of the required standard action was at once taken. I am glad to say such cases were very rare.

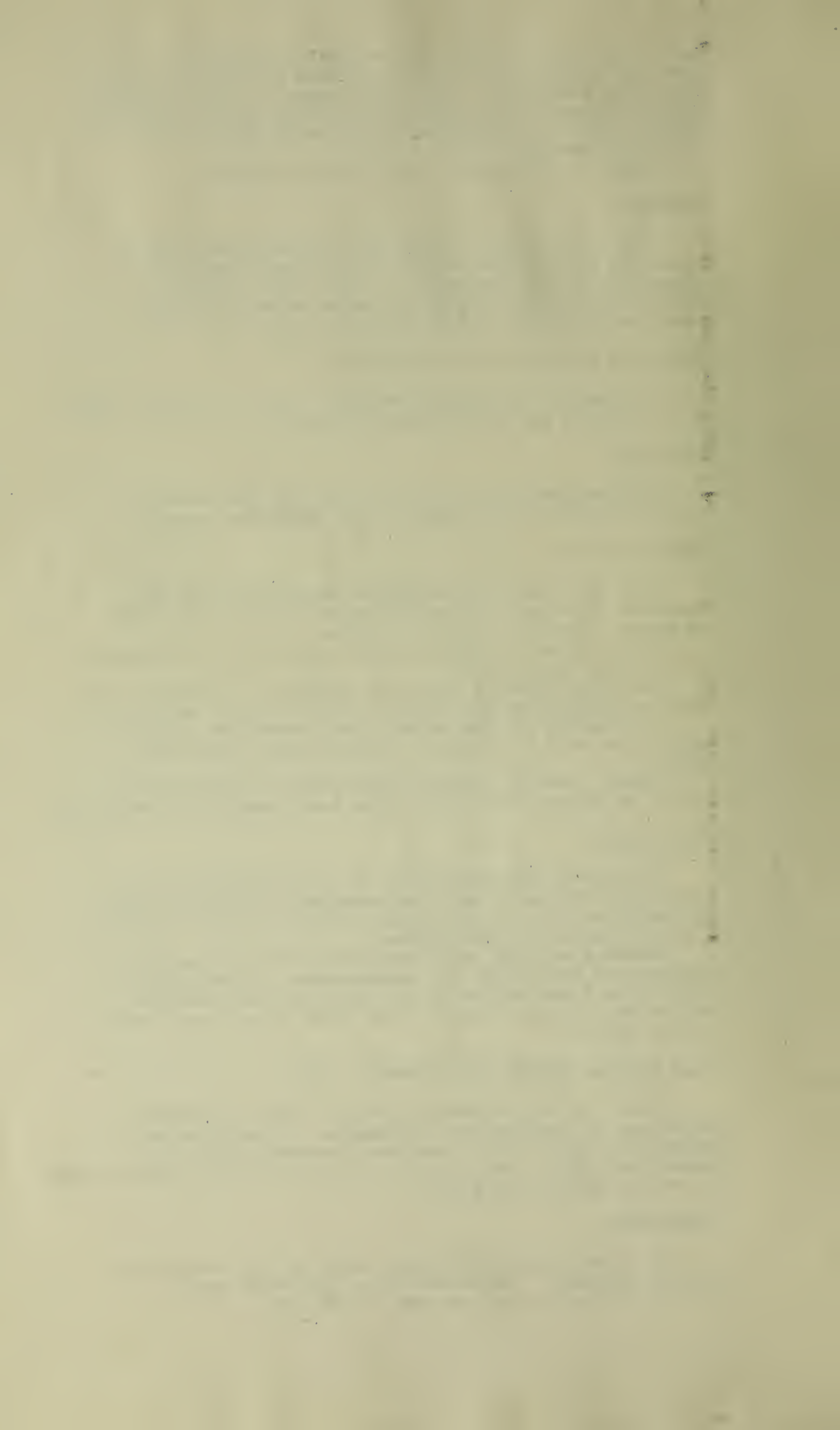
MILK SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS ORDER, 1936.

There is one licensed producer, and 3 licensed purveyors of Pasteurised Milk ~~three~~ licensed dealers of Tuberculin Tested Milk, and one licensed dealer in Accredited Milk. One licence is granted to an establishment to bottle Accredited Milk

BAKEHOUSES.

Frequent visits have been paid to the bakehouses in the district. These are clean and well kept.

There are no underground bakehouses.



SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS.

The County Council is the Authority for carrying out this act.

WORKSHOPS.

These were inspected periodically, and it was found in one or two instances that the attention of the occupier had to be drawn to the uncleanness of sanitary conveniences or want of limewashing of internal wall surfaces. These matters were put right without resorting to formal measures. The work carried on is mainly motor repairs, dressmaking and millinery, cycle repairs, joinery photography and upholstery.

I append the Sanitary Inspector's report and would take this opportunity of stating my pleasure in carrying out my duties under a Council so earnest in the desire to ensure perfectly healthy conditions for the town.

I am Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D FRASER MENZIES, M.B., Ch.B. (St. And.)

Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Report of work done by the Sanitary Inspector
for the year, 1940.

TOTAL NO. of NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR. Nil

- (1) By the Local Authority Nil
- (2) By other Local Authorities Nil
- (3) By other bodies or persons Nil

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:-

- (1) a, Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts. 117
- b, Number of inspections made for the purpose. 263
- (2) a, Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925. 12
- b, Number of inspections made for the purpose 36
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation Nil
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head.) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 128

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICES OF FORMAL NOTICES:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. 128

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:-

- a, Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 36 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. Nil
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
 - a, by owners Nil
 - b, by Local Authority in default of owners Nil
- (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 1
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice.-
 - a by owners. 1
 - b, by Local Authority in default of owners Nil
- (c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- (1) Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made Nil
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders Nil
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses subject to under-takings. Nil

d, Proceedings under section 12 of the
Housing Act, 1936:-

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. | Nil |

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936. - OVERCROWDING.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| a, (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year. | Nil |
| (11) Number of families dwelling therein | Nil |
| (111) Number of persons dwelling therein | Nil |
| b, Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year. | Nil |
| c, (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year. | Nil |
| (11) Number of persons concerned in such cases. | Nil |
| d, Number of houses again overcrowded after being previously relieved. | Nil |
| e, Number of Licences granted under Section 61. | 1 |

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS, TENTS, VANS, etc.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Number inspected during the year | 27 |
| " of nuisances therefrom abated | Nil |
| " removed from district | 30 |

BAKEHOUSES.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Number in district | 9 |
| " of underground bakehouses | Nil |
| " of inspections | 40 |
| Contraventions of Factory Acts | 5 |
| Defects remedied | 5 |

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Number on register | 3 |
| " of inspections | 668 |
| Contraventions of by-laws | Nil |
| Defects remedied | Nil |

COWSHEDS

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Number on register | 13 |
| " of inspections | quarterly. |
| Contraventions of regulations | 7 |
| Contraventions remedied | 7 |
| Number of milch cows in district | approx. 150 |

DAIRIES AND MILK SHOPS.

- | | |
|---|------------|
| Number on register | 18 |
| " of inspections | quarterly. |
| Contraventions of regulations | 1 |
| Contraventions remedied | 1 |
| Any instance of disease attributed during the year to milk. | No. |

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number of premises in district	17
" of inspections	70
Contraventions of by-laws	2
Contraventions remedied	2

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

Number of shops inspected	25
Additional heating or ventilation	1
Additional sanitary conveniences	Nil
Exemption Certificate granted under Section 10(2)	Nil

WATER SUPPLY

WELLS

New sunk	Nil
Cleaned, repaired	Nil
Closed as polluted	Nil

PUBLIC SUPPLY

Area supplied	Practically whole area.
Percentage of houses supplied	99%
New cisterns provided	Nil
Cisterns cleansed, repaired, covered etc.	Nil
Number of samples obtained for analysis	
(a) from wells	Nil
(b) from public supply	6
Any insufficiency and where	A few houses in Mill Lane.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE

CLOSETS.

Number of houses with privy vaults in district	3
" of houses with pail closets in district	37
" of pail closets substituted for privy vaults	Nil
" of pail closets repaired	2
" of houses with water-closets in district	3,294
" of water-closets substituted for dry receptacles	Nil
" of water-closets repaired	11

DRAINS.

Drains examined, tested, exposed, etc.	7
" unstopped, repaired, trapped, etc.	37
Waste pipes, rain water pipes disconnected, repaired	7
New soil pipes or ventilating shafts fixed	2
Existing soil pipes or ventilating shafts repaired	3
Drains reconstructed.	Nil

CESSPOOLS

Cesspools rendered impervious	Nil
" emptied, cleansed etc.	884
" abolished	Nil

DISINFECTION.

Rooms disinfected	33
(a) ordinary infectious disease	31
(b) tuberculosis	2
Rooms stripped and cleansed	15

HOUSE REFUSE.

Number of covered ashpits	Nil
" of uncovered ashpits	Nil
" of bins substituted for ashpits	Nil
" of houses using bins	3,327
Is refuse removed by householders or by public scavenger?	Council
How often is refuse removed from each house?	Winter weekly twice weekly in summer.
Number of complaints of non-removal	Practically non-existent
Method of final disposal	Controlled Tip
Are existing arrangements for refuse removal satisfactory?	Yes

NUISANCES.

Total number of nuisances during the year	
(1) Abated as result of informal action by Sanitary Inspector	46
(2) Reported to Council Statutory notice issued	1
" " not issued	4

DETAILS OF NUISANCES ABATED

	After Informal Intimation.	After Stat. Notice.
Overcrowding	Nil	-
Smoke	2	-
Accumulation of refuse	7	-
Foul ditches, ponds stagnant water.	3	-
Foul pigs and other animals	12	-
Dampness	24	1
Yards re-paved or repaired	Nil	-
Other nuisances	Nil	-

Supplementary remarks as to Sanitary Requirements of District, and extended notes from any of the foregoing entries.

Miscellaneous Visits totalled (These include visits in connection with house and trade refuse removal disposal and salvage, and visits to properties with agents, owners and builders) 676

Infectious Disease Visits	24
Visits to food premises, etc.	67
Inspections under Rats and Mice Destruction Act.	32

